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LA REVIEW OF BOOKS

# (al'ma jest')

April 27, The Year 2000

*The Almagest*  
*Don't let the dog out of the boat*

Volume 37, Number 11

## Legislature denies raise in tuition Chancellor Marsala laments unfunded mandates

by William Aaron McKechnie  
and Brian Rogers

In the waning moments of the last congressional session, the Louisiana congress failed to pass a bill allowing universities in the LSU system to raise tuition.

This brought a flurry of press conferences to all points of the state.

LSUS hosted a conference that brought out several high-ranking official from the Northwest Louisiana area to discuss the lack of college funding and expectations of a tuition increase.

The bill failed by only two votes which surprised Dr.

William Jenkins, president of the Louisiana State University

System,

"This was completely unexpected." Jenkins said in an interview. "We had the necessary votes, but four supporters missed that day. A fifth supporter had just stepped out of chambers for a minute when the vote came up."

When

asked how LSUS, as a university, could be more proactive in these matters, Jenkins responded, "It's very critical that we have a coalescing of thinking. We, the system, have to provide more information to you as constituents."

Jenkins admitted that this matter was clearly his responsibility, but added, "I like to believe that when a door closes a window opens. This may be a great opportunity for the system."

The higher education bill to increase tuition was defeated after the bill failed to muster a two-thirds vote dur-

Continued on page 5



photo by Mark Rogers

LSU system president William Jenkins discusses the finer points of university politics with Brian Rogers.

## Auditorium burglary: science projector stolen

by Russell Boswell

On Apr. 12, 2000, Associate Professor Stephen Banks entered the SLA building to set up for class and discovered that the auditorium's \$3,670 projector was missing. University Police have determined that the projector was stolen.

At approximately 7:30 a.m., Police Lieutenant Ronald Parker dispatched

Officer Rodney Christian to investigate the missing projector. Christian observed that the chain and cables, which were meant to secure the projector, had been cut. Adjunct Clai-borne Sharp was the last person to use the projector. Sharp said that he used the projector on Apr. 11 and that the projector was in place when he left the auditorium.

According to Parker, a

number of people could have stolen the projector. Professors routinely left the auditorium unlocked after use and University Police locked the doors later in the day. This left several hours during which a student who may of had use or a buyer for the projector could have walked out with it as if it were theirs. There are currently construction workers work-

Continued on page 8

## Campus Police Blotter

April 12, 2000 - MISSING: One projector from the Science Lecture Auditorium. Approximate value: \$2,750. See article on left.

April 20, 2000 - RECOVERED: One karaoke machine, disappeared from the HPE building. Approximate value: \$550. See page 4.

If you have information that should be here, please call The Almagest at (318) 797-5328.

### BASEBALL

Hey buddy, we're talking about your Pilots.  
Check out pages 10-11

### INSIDE

SGA	3
History of LSUS	4
Robotics	6
Boston Marathon	8

# The Almagest

("al-meh-jest". n.) Arabic: "The Majestic"

any of several medieval treatises on a branch of knowledge (as the 9th century Arabic translation of Ptolemy's Greek work on astronomy)

- Webster's Third New International Dictionary



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The Almagest is a member of the Southeastern Journalism Conference, American College Press Association, and the Columbia Scholastic Press Association

# From The Editor

The staff of the Almagest has spent the past several weeks planning interesting features, multiple part series, and regular weekly staples.

We are happy to see the return of Eleven, the Problem from Hell, baseball coverage, and a From the Editor from our new Editor and Chief, Mark Rogers.

A new piece that we are especially pleased to announce will be a police blotter. The campus police will be turning over copies of all reports to the Almagest on a weekly basis.

Of course, we all know that there is no crime on this campus or at the University Court Apartments, but now we will have a consistent place to check on the rumors that have been known to circulate.

Although this is the last paper of the semester, we are thrilled to announce the blotter and show the first incarnation of what has become an essential piece in most newspapers, including campus papers. We've put it in a box right on the front page. We at the Almagest hope that this corner of the front page will become a place where we can highlight the good news on this campus and showcase the results of our hardworking campus police.

This week we were able to mention the recovery of a Karaoke machine. This is the sort of "good news" that we hope we can be a conduit for.

The campus police here at LSUS really do deserve more credit for the work they do here. I'm afraid the Almagest staff has been lackadaisical in our reporting for all facets of the campus. There have been several stories that seem to have just passed us by. For that, all we can offer is our heightened resolution to get ALL of the stories.

We are also beginning to recruit for next semester's Almagest staff. If you've enjoyed the Almagest, or if you feel you would like to see different things in The Almagest, we encourage all applications and submissions. We don't require a journalism major, or even stellar grammar, just a good attitude and an unquenchable desire for accuracy.

Thank you for your time,  
Brian Rogers, Editor in Chief

## Calendar of Events

### Thursday, April 27

10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Student Support Services

### Common Hour

SAB Meeting in the DeSoto Room

Society of Reason Meeting in the Webster Room

Noon SOC Awards Convocation in the Ballroom

6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Phi Mu

### Saturday, April 29

Celtic Festival

Got a story?

Call the Almagest at 797-5328 Email us at [almagest@pilot.lsus.edu](mailto:almagest@pilot.lsus.edu)

### The Almagest Letters Policy

The Almagest requests your reactions through Letters to the Editor. Letters should be typed and double spaced. Please include your class and major field of study. Letters should be submitted to *The Almagest* office, BH 344, by noon on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed. *The Almagest* reserves the right to edit letters. □

# From the incoming Editor

The Almagest is a success, and I'm quite proud. More people are reading it than ever before, and they're not just reading it, they're talking about it. They're experiencing a plethora of emotions and expressing them by telling us that they like the Almagest and telling the administration and student government to tell us that they don't like the Almagest. They're writing us letters, and scrawling graffiti on the blackboards. They care. They really care.

Most people across campus happily accept the Almages that I hand to them. They say, "I love the Classifieds. I always read them first. I love/hate the humor in here."

People will sometimes mention one or two of a variety of school issues that they have read about, their stance on the issue or possibly name a reporter whose style they admire or dislike. Most people like to point out typographical errors because that makes them feel smart, so we try to throw a couple in every know and agane to keep them happy.

The humor has definitely helped to increase circulation, but there is a question of whether or not this humor diminishes the credibility of the newspaper. The Almagest has been accused of offending people with its humor, but most of the people who have accused the Almagest of offensiveness don't even belong to the groups they claim to be defending. I ask and ask people of various groups all over the campus what they like and what they don't like. The answers are fairly consistent. Most students generally like the funny stuff, the angry letters and always mention an Aaron Sartori article or the Classifieds. Some of the faculty and staff like the humor, but they mostly admire the investigative reporting on issues such as administrator pay raises, lack of state funding, and proposed fee increases.

Oddly enough, I believe the brazen humor has increased the Almagest's integrity. The Almagest isn't "fair", and it's not supposed to be. Most of the articles are "fair" in that they are objective, but it should be obvious that the Almagest itself is subjectively for and of the students of this campus. The dogma of the Almagest being a fearful, timid, and ineffectual student-newspaper edited by administration sympathies has been completely vaporized by our humor content. That dogma has been

replaced with a new Almagest that leaves no stone unturned, especially the ones with hisses and rattles underneath. When students or faculty members find themselves in a difficult place without help, they are beginning to turn their stories over to the Almagest to investigate. We have cultivated this student newspaper into a voice of expression for the frustrated masses. That voice had been silent for too long, and now it is strong, loud, and some would even say



**Classified ad writer, kenaf farmer and big brother to succeed editor.**

it is an embarrassment.

The voice is loud, and now I intend to expand its eloquence. Since this year's objectives of increased readership and identification have been well accomplished, I will refine and build on our current success with a core of experienced editors that I have had privilege of working with this year. Our foremost goals will include an increased focus on the campus police happenings and intensifying the Almagest's watchdog function of monitoring the administration and student government. In addition, there will be an entertainment editor covering and promoting events sponsored by the University and the Student Activities Board and a lifestyles editor covering and promoting activities sponsored by various non-official student clubs as well as clubs recognized by the Student Organizations Council. Humor will continue to be an important part of the Almagest's total make-up. Eleventeen will be back, but I haven't been able to discern whether or not I will have time to write the Classifieds again next semester.

I am extremely proud of the following of Classified lovers that I have cultivated, and I am grateful for all the support. I

never had any fans before. Thank you all.

Next year as editor, I will do my best to assign, edit, and print newsworthy events with pictures in an objective manner, while simultaneously writing subjective editorials that illuminate the virtues and vices of this campus in an effort to improve all of our lives.

I will not play politician or try to make everybody happy at the same time, that only encourages apathy and the stagnation of status quo. Instead, I will try to whip the masses into demanding what is rightfully theirs, the knowledge of good and evil and the desire to act on that knowledge to better this University and ultimately, their lives.

I will continue to ask difficult questions and print interesting answers, because I have an inspiration.

I hear too many people complaining about how things aren't "fair" and not doing anything about it. In my first semester at LSUS, I saw a film on bio-medical ethics concerning micro-premature infant care. In that film is a scene of an incubator containing an infant the size of my hand, pierced with a multitude of hoses and tubes, screaming and raising a tiny, fingerless hand to the sky. As the camera closed in on the hour-old nub of a fist trembling with pain, a voice-over announced, "These babies have a 1% chance at living a normal life."

I thought to myself, "These babies have a 1% chance to suffer all the day-to-day aggravations and mediocrity that seem to make my life unfair and normal?" Suddenly my life seemed a whole lot more "fair".

I decided that day that I would never again say that anything was "unfair". "Unfair" is a poor excuse to not act. I refer to things as "challenges". A challenge is a chance to excel beyond perceived limitations and achieve success. It's a chance for a miracle.

As I ask questions and print the answers, next year's Almagest will reveal a number of challenges for members of the University: students, faculty, staff, and administration. That's all that I can do. I can't make anybody step up to a challenge or turn away and say it's not "fair". I can only inform them of what the challenges are, because I care. I really care.

Mark Rogers

# SGA moves forward with new members

## Ferrell says "No" to request for copy machines

by Scott Balcerzak

During this week's Student Government Association (SGA) meeting, a call went up for any LSUS students wishing to fill the open student advisory committee seats.

Any students interested in the 15 open positions will be voted upon during an upcoming SGA meeting.

A student can only belong to one committee per semester.

The student advisory committees fall into two categories. They are the Faculty Senate Committees, which report directly to the



Faculty Senate, and the Administrative Committees, which report to the members of the administration of different departments.

Open positions in the following committees are available: the Athletic Committee, the Awards and Recognition Committee, the Commencement Committee, the Parking and Traffic Committee, the Student Financial Aid and Scholarship Committee, the Admissions and Standards Committee, the Library Committee, the Student Affairs Committee, and the Student Conduct Com-



Penry

mittee.

Any students interested in the positions should contact SGA President Jason Penry, who will be formally presenting the candidates during an upcoming meeting, at either of the following telephone numbers: 797-5342 or 797-5389.



Ferrell

Also during the April 24th meeting, the November 8th proposal to obtain coping machines for the Science Building and Bronson Hall was turned down.

Guest speaker Michael T. Ferrell, vice chancellor of business

affairs, told the senators that leasing the machines would be too costly and that a past attempt at putting coping machines into the University Center and Bronson Hall in 1996 proved unsuccessful.

"Basically, the machines have to pay for themselves," said Ferrell.

"The cost of leasing and maintaining the copiers can prove to be very expensive." Ferrell also added that much of the equipment on campus is leased, in order to keep up with changing technology and costly maintenance requirements. "Leasing equipment is the best policy for the University as a whole," he said.

## Karoke machine recovered for HPE

by William Aaron McKechnie

What was lost has been found. During routine pawn shop check for stolen merchandise last Thursday, campus police recovered a Fleco CDG-10 sound system (Karaoke machine). The machine was reported missing on March 22, 2000, after the Department of Kinesiology and Health Science found no one had checked out the machine.

"We thought at first it might have been misplaced," said Chairman of the Department of Kinesiology and Health Science Timothy Winter. The machine's value is estimated at \$360. It belonged to a group of equipment that required a special request signature for usage.

Chief Ron Parker said an individual attempted to pawn the machine at a downtown pawn shop. "But the subject ran when he was told by the pawn shop worker (the karaoke machine) was property of LSUS." Apparently, the pawn shop worker saw the "Property of LSUS" sticker on the machine and told the individual he couldn't buy the machine.

LSUS places serial number stickers on all property belonging to the university.

Parker said the individual who attempted to pawn the machine did manage to flee without getting caught by the police. But now campus police have a description of the man who may have stolen the machine.

## Problem from Hell



A "Superbounce" ball rebounds half the height it drops. The ball is dropped from a height of 176 feet. How far off the ground is the ball when it has traveled a total of 500 feet?

Answer to last week's problem: A 50 lb. Watermelon consisting of 90% water is dehydrated until it is 75% water. What does it weigh when it is 75% water?

Solution:

Initially, the watermelon has  $.9 \times 50 = 45\text{ lbs.}$  of water. Let  $x$  be the amount of water that evaporates. Then

$$\frac{45 - x}{50 - x} = .75$$

$$45 - x = .75(50 - x)$$

$$45 - x = 37.5 - .75x$$

$$7.5 = .25x$$

$$x = 30$$

Solving for  $x$  yields 30 lbs. Thus the watermelon weighs  $50 - 30 = 20\text{ lbs.}$

Please submit answers to Dr. Vekovius in BH 420

# Legislature considering new tax

by Mark Rogers

The oil and gas processing tax was co-authored by state senators Foster Campbell, Don Cravins, and Joe McPherson and prefilled as Senate Bill 1 for the legislative session beginning April 24.



The bill is a constitutional amendment that would replace Louisiana's 12.5% severance tax on in-state oil and gas with a 6.25% processing tax on all oil passing through Louisiana. The bill will also repeal the three cent state sales tax on

food and utilities and five cents of the state gas tax.

Senator Campbell commissioned New Orleans native Dr. Verne Kennedy of Marketing Research Institute to survey 600 Louisiana voters on various plans for erasing the state's multi-million-dollar deficit.

The poll revealed that

76% of state voters support taxing foreign oil and gas processed in Louisiana as compared to 18% opposed and 6% uncertain.

"Louisiana voters are aware of the state's financial difficulties, consider the situation serious and clearly prefer a tax on foreign oil and gas over

other alternatives," Kennedy said.

A free brochure on the Processing Tax is available by calling Senator Campbell at (225) 342-2040 or (318) 746-2078, or read it online at <http://senate.legis.state.la.us/Campbell?topics/oil-taxbrochure>.

# American Humanics plans awards luncheon

by Christy Avery



The American Humanics Certification and Master of Science and Human and Services Administration will hold a Non-profit and Philanthropy Luncheon and Lecture on May 1, in the University Center's ballroom, from 11:30 til 1:30.

The event, headed by Dr. Norman Dolch, Director of the American Humanics, is to honor those

dedicated to community philanthropy. The Louisiana Downs will be honored at the luncheon this year for its 30 years of support to the community.

Louisiana Downs first opened in 1974. Each year it hosts a number of special races, including the Barksdale Handicap and River Cities Breeders Cup. The Downs also hosts one of America's premier races, the Super Derby. In addition to its community support to the Super Derby Festival, the Downs has sponsored Christmas in

the Sky.

Dr. Kirk Alliman, President of American Humanics, Inc., will give an address on, The Leadership Role of American Humanics in providing nonprofit education to undergraduate students. Alliman has a Ph.D in history. He has been president of the American Humanics, Inc., since October 1992. During these years, American Humanics has incorporated 60 colleges and universities into its program. The program offers nonprofit management and leadership, with

twenty-eight collaborating national nonprofit organizations.

Students are welcomed to attend. The meal will be \$10 per person. For an invitation or more information, you may contact Dr. Dolch, at 797-5235 or the Continuing Education Center at 797-5000.

Those interested in pursuing job opportunities within the non-profit sector are encouraged to attend the luncheon.

# Legislature denies tuition raise (cont.)

Continued from page 1  
ing the state's last spe-  
cial session. The only  
way this issue can be  
voted on again is if the  
Governor calls another  
special session.

Louisiana is the only  
state belonging to the  
Southern Regional Edu-  
cation Board (16 states)  
that must acquire a two-  
thirds vote to raise  
tuition.

LSUS Chancellor  
Dr. Vincent Marsala  
spoke to the need of a  
raise in tuition here at  
LSUS.

"We have had over  
5.8 million dollars in  
unfunded mandates  
come down from the  
state. These mandates

are in the form of civil  
service step increases  
and retirement man-  
dates." Marsala said.

Marsala continued,  
"LSUS is unable to sup-  
port the Shreveport/  
Bossier City area,  
because there are only  
six graduate programs  
that are available to  
students."

The bill to increase  
tuition is viewed by  
many as the only way  
to bring Louisiana's  
higher education up to  
par with the rest of the  
southern states.

"Higher education is  
the key to moving

Louisiana off of the  
bottom of the list," said  
Bobby Jindal, president  
of the University of



Marsala

Louisiana System.

Louisiana communi-  
ty and Technical Col-  
lege System's president  
Dr. Wayne Brown said  
colleges and universi-  
ties are under served.

"We need to do more

with retraining individ-  
uals when it's needed  
and where it's needed,"  
he said.

Brown said he  
would like to see more  
jobs that are actually in  
need of workers, spend  
more money in remedial  
programs, and continue  
to teach in the prison  
systems.

Dr. James Brown,  
chancellor of Southern  
University in Shreve-  
port, said, "It is impera-  
tive that each and  
everyone of you see the  
educational era. Higher  
education is the corner-  
stone for every thing  
we do." Brown believes  
education is now in the  
hands of the communi-

Jenkins also spoke  
toward the cohesion he  
sees as necessary for  
Louisiana. "We can  
prepare a superb gradu-  
ate and then we'll lose  
him or her to another  
state." Jenkins said.

Other officials who  
attended the conference  
were Congressman Jim  
McCrery, state rep-  
resentative Buddy Shaw,  
former Shreveport  
mayor Jim Gardner,  
Southern University  
Board woman Dottie  
Bell, and representa-  
tives of Northwestern  
University, Southern  
University, and Bossier  
Parish Community Col-  
lege.

# The bountiful life after a liberal arts degree

by Scott Balcerzak

When senior English major Tammy Young tells family and friends about the academic path she has chosen, she often hears a response that many students seeking degrees within the College of Liberal Arts hear. "Basically, people ask me what can I do with such a degree," Young said.

Of all the options of majors that LSUS has, the bachelor degrees offered by the College of Liberal Arts often provide the largest amount of speculation among students on the prospect of actually finding employment after graduation. It is a concern that Dr. Brian Hirsch, director of the Career Planning and Placement



Center, hears often. "We are living in a vocationalized environment," Hirsch said. "People are used to career options that are defined by majors."

According to Hirsch, Liberal Arts majors are not as high-

ly recruited as the other degree recipients at LSUS. But this fact alone does not necessarily devalue the majors themselves. "We don't get a large amount of requests for Liberal Arts majors," Hirsch said. "But when we suggest the idea, they (employers) are often very agreeable to it."

Dr. Norman Dolch, Professor

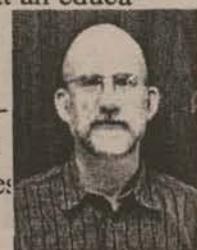


Hirsch

of History and Social Sciences, deals often with employers from the nonprofit sector who are looking for college graduates with many of the skills that an education in Liberal Arts provides.

"There are a number of employers that need college graduates who can write and communicate well," Dolch said. "I've heard from executives who have had complaints about college graduates having a problem writing full sentences and paragraphs. This is not a problem with students studying humanities at LSUS."

One of the benefits of an education in the humanities is the amount of options available. "A Liberal Arts major can literally be



Dolch

hired for just about any job that is nontechnical in nature," Hirsch said. As a result of such open-ended career options, Liberal Arts majors must learn to be self-directed and aggressive in presenting the skills they have learned to employers.

It is also important that Liberal Art majors pinpoint specific career paths. Possible options include any professions which utilize writing and communication skills. Many jobs in government, public relations, publishing, and nonprofit organizations often fit this description.

"It all comes down to somebody knowing what they want to do with the degree," Hirsch said. "It is simply a matter of a personal decision."

## CLEAR helps students help kids

by William Aaron McKechnie



In one hour sessions, twice a week, five LSUS students sit down and tutor a child whose parents feel their child has "fallen through the cracks" of the educational system.

With student to teacher ratios on the rise, elementary and secondary education violence escalating, and the lack of responsibility for the parent over the child, it doesn't take long to understand why five out of 4,200 students at LSUS are in the Center for Learning Enhancement and Research program (CLEAR).

Since 1985, CLEAR has worked with 1,500 children from grades one through twelve, on a one-

on-one basis. College students are assigned CLEAR students (tutuees) based on their academic strengths and weaknesses. Tutoring is accomplished on the college campus in a bias-free environment suitable for learning and inquiry. It is the opportunity for a college student to experience a one-on-one situation with a child having learning difficulties.

Jim Foreman, active member of CLEAR since its inception in 1985 and executive director since 1998, said the demand from parents with children who need the help of his program outstrips the students he has on hand to provide help. The problem said Foreman, "I have about 50 families that call me every semester who are interested in the program, but I don't have that many tutors." This semes-

ter Foreman says there are only 18 tutors in the local program. LSUS isn't the only university taking part, Bossier Parish Community College and Centenary College are active as well.

Foreman believes teachers "have their plate full" when it comes to teaching, today. Because the teacher is busy with an overcrowded class, he/she can't spend the allotted amount of time a student needs if they're slow understanding the material or, on the other hand, a student who would like the class to move at a faster pace. "The slow learners are lost and the quick learners are bored."

All five of the students, enrolled in the CLEAR program here on campus, said they would recommend the upper-level course to a student looking for a hands-on

application of mentoring.

Melissa Day, tutor, said of the program, "(CLEAR) should be offered to more majors, because it's helping the community."

Sarah Larson, tutor, said the program didn't have anything to do with her major, but it will help out should she want to apply his knowledge in the arena of teaching.

Tutor Brad Weatherly said, "I would recommend this course to any Education major."

Most of the students found skills they never knew they had until taking the course.

"I never thought I'd be teaching a child," said Stafford Hunter, tutor. "I never thought I'd have good teaching methods."

Erin Bradley, tutor, said her student has taught her "patience and a rewarding sense from (her

student's) success, like a spelling test."

"The mother says the teacher at (the tutee's) school isn't doing the job of teaching," said Hunter.

Day said if she isn't at least helping her student academically, then she is improving her tutee's self-esteem.

"It isn't magic," said Foreman. "I've had parents put their children in the program and the child failed. But I have had a majority of parents who have seen progress with their children." Foreman said he still gets goosebumps when a parent sits down with the college student who has helped their child in school and asks, "What were you doing that I wasn't doing?"

No funds are given by LSUS to CLEAR, except tutors, office space, classrooms, library and campus privileges.

# A history lesson: only three remain

by William Aaron McKechnie



It can be argued that LSUS is indebted to two unique individuals. The first is Aristotle. The Aristotelian creed stated that an educated man should acquire a diverse knowledge in all or almost all branches of life.

Many years ago a student was taught seven arts or skills, consisting of the trivium (grammar, rhetoric, and logic) and the quadrivium (arithmetic, geometry, astronomy, and music). These arts in later years became known as subjects in a modern liberal curriculum consisting of language, philosophy, mathematics, science, and history. The foundation of higher education in the intangible medium.

Years after the inception of the Aristotelian creed, on October 15, 1936, a young Caddo Parish Police Juror by the name of Frank Fulco supported a resolution in the Caddo Parish Police Jury to establish a branch of Louisiana State University in Shreveport. The resolution was supported by the Queensborough Civic Club, and it passed unanimously.

The following year, Caddo State Senator Roescoe Cranor presented then Governor Richard Leche with a formal request for a branch of LSU in Shreveport. Leche

rejected the proposal. In 1937, Fulco campaigned for a state representative seat and won. Even after numerous proposals, resolutions and bills for a branch of LSU in Shreveport had failed, Fulco never gave up hope. And in 1958, the State Department of Education completed a two year study into the feasibility and logistics of a public college in Shreveport, instigated by Fulco in 1956. The State Department of Education found that not only was

a two-year branch of LSU in Shreveport. It passed both the House and Senate, and was signed into law as Act 41 by Governor John J. McKeithen on June 27, 1964.

Appointed by the LSU Board as the first Dean of LSUS in 1965, Dr. Donald Shipp made a makeshift headquarters at what is now the Northwestern Nursing school building on Line Avenue. Three of the original recruits were Vincent Marsala, Rex



Jimes (Circa 1969)



Marsala (Circa 1969)



Matlock (Circa 1969)

there a need for a public college in Shreveport, but that the citizen outcry affirmed such a venture.

In the early 1960's, J. Milton Edwards of Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 2238, passed a resolution to establish LSU in Shreveport. Then, in 1964, state representatives Algie Brown (Caddo), Frank Fulco (Caddo), J. Bennett Johnson (Caddo), Ford Stinson (Bossier), and Joe Cooper (DeSoto) co-authored House Bill 87. They were supported by state Senators Jackson B. Davis (Caddo), Johnny Rodgers (Caddo), and Harold Montgomery (Bossier). House Bill 87 included the creation of

Matlock, and Selvestion Jimes.

After talking to the executive assistant of the LSU System, Shipp was told to contact Vincent Marsala who had recently finished his doctorate degree at LSU Baton Rouge. Marsala had sent resumes to Auburn and Washington State universities, when he was told, "there was a new college opening in Shreveport."

Matlock was working in Oakridge, Tennessee's Nation Lab as a physicist when he decided to finish his doctorate degree. "I took a leave of absence from my job to finish my Ph.D. at LSU Baton Rouge," said Matlock.

Also on LSU Baton

Rouge's campus at the same time as Matlock was Selvestion Jimes, who was working on his doctorate degree as well. Jimes said he was asked by Shipp, who was in Baton Rouge looking for recruits, to think about a job instructing at the new university in Shreveport. "(Shipp) asked where I was from," said Jimes. "I told him Bossier City, and (Shipp) said, 'Perfect.'"

Jimes and Matlock had met back when they

pushing for four-year status, actually lining Highway One from Shreveport to Baton Rouge with signs and posters proclaiming four years for LSUS. But opposition came from area colleges fearing student enrollment figures would decrease if LSUS became a public degree-granting institution.

When state Senator Don Williamson (Caddo) in 1972 led writing of the four-year degree-granting status bill for LSUS, it was not only opposed by area colleges, but was then prohibited to build dormitories on campus, if it wanted four-year status. LSUS supporters agreed to the dormitory prohibition. It was also during this time two state congressmen were vying for the position of governor of Louisiana: J.

Bennet Johnson and Edwin Edwards.

Edwards made a campaign promise to defend LSUS, and he actively supported the four-year status bill by appearing in the private legislative chambers. William Bronson, publisher of the Shreveport Times and member of the Coordinating Council for Higher Education, strongly supported the four-year bill and used his personal powers of persuasion to endorse the four-year status bill for LSUS.

Edwin Edwards won the Governor's race in 1972, and remained true to his word by signing the four-year bill for LSUS. The pen he used to sign the bill was pre-

# Old library will house robotics lab

by Russell Boswell

About one month ago, LSUS purchased equipment and set up a Computer Integrated Manufacturing lab using almost \$278,000 allocated by the state of Louisiana.

The lab is in the old library building which is planned to undergo renovation in 2001.

Two years ago, Dr. Krishna Argawal, chair of computer sciences, submitted a proposal for a robotics lab to the state of Louisiana. LSUS received \$74,000 and set up a robotics lab in the Business Education building. Around the same time, Argawal submitted another proposal which resulted in the new CIM lab.

Argawal is already using both labs for his classes. These robotics labs are intended to teach students how to use computers to control robot arms and how to control a manufacturing system.



Local industries—such as GMC, Lucent Technologies, and Fry Master—could also make use of the labs. Companies could send their employees to LSUS to be trained.

There are currently no other institutions in Shreveport with this type of technology.

To make the old library a more efficient building, the state has appropriated \$1.4 million dollars for remodeling, and will likely appropriate another \$1 million. LSUS has been trying to get remodeling underway in the old library for the past three or four years.

Dr. Alfred McKinney, dean of college of sciences, said remodeling should take place around July 2001. McKinney expects that the remodeling will take between eight months and one year.

The second floor of the build-

ing will primarily be devoted to computer science and the Pioneer Heritage Center. It will also have

an electronic meeting room, which is a room where someone from LSUS could audibly and visually meet with someone at another electronic meeting room anywhere in the world, via satellite.

The first floor will primarily be

Continuing Education and the LSUS bookstore. Once remodeling is finished, the bookstore will move to the old library from the University Center. The bookstore will take up approximately half of the first floor, which will make it much larger than it currently is.

To bring the building up to standard with the rest of the campus,

several renovations will be done on it. The air-conditioning system will be improved, the elevator will be enlarged, and the building will be rewired to use fiber-optics.



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# Two LSUS professors run in the Boston Marathon

by William Aaron McKechnie

According to Greek legend, the 1896 Olympic distance run of 24.8 miles is

based on a Greek foot soldier Pheidippides who was sent from the plains of Marathon to Athens with the news of the victory over the powerful Persian army. Exhausted as he approached the leaders of Athens, Pheidippides staggered and gasped, "Rejoice! We Conquer!" and then collapsed.

Thankfully, LSUS professors Terry Harris and Burt Wagner didn't feel as physically shuddered and haggard, when they completed the 104th annual running of the Boston Marathon on Monday, April 17.

The Boston Marathon is one of the most prestigious marathons in the world; drawing world-class

athletes from across the globe every year just to participate for its glory and its half-million dollar purse.

With approximately 18,000 official runners this year, the Boston Marathon recorded its second-largest turnout of its history.

Harris, professor of English and a seasoned participant in the event, said he runs in the Boston Marathon because it gives him a sense of accomplishment in a tangible form.

"There's nothing abstract about it," Harris said about the personal satisfaction he receives from finishing the race. "It's not something everybody does, and it's something relatively few people accomplish."

Wagner, professor of Mathematics, said he ran in

the Boston Marathon because it was a goal that he envisioned could be conquered.

After successfully completing his second



Harris



Wagner

marathon in San Diego, Calif., Wagner said, "I was told I had qualified well enough for the Boston Marathon."

The Boston Marathon isn't open invitation to the general public.

To acquire an invitation to run in the Boston Marathon you have to qualify on a certified marathon course in your age and gender group.

There is a stipulation, though, you have to qualify every year. If you don't run in the Boston Marathon for that year, then your qualifying times are nullified

and you have to qualify again. Harris and Wagner qualified for next year's marathon by finishing well enough in this year's marathon.

This year's Boston Marathon marked Harris' eleventh time to successfully compete

and complete in the event. Harris started in his first Boston Marathon back in 1988, he ran

consecutively from 1988 to 1992, sitting out 1993 and 1994, but returned in 1995 till present. For Wagner, this was his first Boston Marathon.

"The most challenging part of the Boston Marathon is said to be Heart Break Hill, (a suc-

cession of four stair-stepping hills in the 16-21 mile marker, Heartbreak Hill being the last) but I think the challenge is the five miles after it," said Harris. "It's a gradual downhill, and it's really hard on your leg muscles."

Teaming up with Larry Rabin, director of Health Sciences, Harris and Wagner raised approximately \$400 through their Marathon Scholarships fund raiser.

Individuals donated money in connection with the two professors participating in the Boston Marathon.

Money raised for the effort will support scholarship funding for English, mathematics and athletics. Half of the money raised went to the Department of athletics and a quarter of the money each went to the Mathematics and English departments, respectively.

## Auditorium theft (Cont.)

*Continued from page 1*

ing on campus who carry boxes in and out of the SLA building. One of the construction workers could have put the projector in a box and carried it out of the building, as well.

LSUS is asking insurance to replace the projector. Three months ago, a computer worth approximately \$2000 was stolen from a storage room, while still in the box. According to Dr. Alfred McKinney, dean of the college of sciences, the computer was stolen by someone with a key. Faculty, staff, and construction workers have keys to the room. Insurance would not replace the computer because there was no forced entry. McKinney hopes that the cut chain and cables in the projector situation

will qualify for "forced entry" and that insurance will pay for the projector.

The college of sciences now has ten projectors for use in the Science building lecture rooms. McKinney wanted a projector for the SLA building and every Science building lecture room, but if insurance does not replace the stolen projector then a room may have to go without one.

Parker will check pawn shop records with the cooperation of the Shreveport and Bossier police, but he said he doubts the projector will show up. "Usually, something that valuable is not taken to a pawn shop," Parker said.

To prevent any further thefts, rooms with a projector will now be locked immediately after each use.

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# Pilot show mettle against #10 Houston Baptist

by Ryan Sanford



If you weren't a believer before last weekend's three game series with NAIA powerhouse Houston Baptist, the Pilot's inspiring—and at times miraculous play was cause enough to send you racing to the altar for more than just an Easter Sunday church service..

Third baseman Scott Forte's diving stab of a line drive in the first inning of Friday's game robbed Houston Baptist of at least two runs, immediately setting the tone for what would be a gutsy, fearless performance by the entire LSUS team.

It would have been easy for the Pilots to fold early in game one as the Huskies put men on second and third with one out. Pilot starter Josh Constant

then got a pop-up out of HBU cleanup hitter Chris Fadal before Forte went completely horizontal to snare a smash off the bat of Doug Golden, ending the inning without a Huskie crossing the plate.

The Pilots would later rally for three runs in the bottom of the eighth to overcome a 3-2 deficit and win 5-3. Casey Baker came through with a clutch one-out, two-run triple that ultimately proved to be the game winner in the Pilot's three-run eighth.

However, for head coach Rocke Musgraves, Forte's first-inning act of highway robbery was the key. "Forte saved the game. Without a doubt he saved at least two runs and gave us a great emotional lift." Musgraves added, "That play got us believing. This game is not always about talent, it's

about guts, determination, and belief. They (HBU) have some great players, many of them will get drafted, but our guys believed they could win. It's all about belief."

**This game is not always about talent, it's about guts, determination, and belief**

That belief spilled over into Saturday's double-header. Huskie hurler Brian Steffek stifled the Pilots' bats in the first game, striking out eleven as HBU won 7-1, giving Pilot fans reason to believe that Friday's game may have been an apparition.

However, the Pilots came out with a patient attack early in game two as the top three hitters in the lineup each drew walks to

load the bases. Chad Spears and Cayce Burkett followed with rbi singles and later in the inning Fred Bruton lined a two-out, two-run single as the Pilots scored six times in the first.

The Huskies later showed why they are a national powerhouse, coming from behind to tie the game at 7-7 on Justin Syfert's three-run double in the top of the fourth.

However, in the bottom half of the inning with two on and no one out, Scott Perrin blasted a three-run bomb to deep left field, putting the Pilots ahead to stay. Perrin's 11th homer of the year, combined with the crucial late inning relief of Parker put LSUS in position to win the series.

With Parker tiring in the sixth and the bullpen virtually expended, Musgraves made the decision to call upon Constant, who

had pitched six innings the day before, to save the game. The senior ace sprinted out of the bullpen and shutdown the Huskies over the final inning and two-thirds to earn his first save of the year and give the Pilots a 12-8 victory and the series win, putting them two games ahead of HBU in first place in the Red River Conference.

Pilot lefthander Ed Parker picked up wins in both LSUS victories out of the bullpen, providing the kind of relief that has allowed the Pilots to improve their record to 26-22 overall, 7-1 in conference.

The Pilots will travel to Austin, Texas this weekend to face Huston-Tillotson in the final conference series of the year. The Pilots can clinch the number one seed in the conference tournament with one win.

## Students surveyed over athletic fee

by William Aaron McKechnie



A recent survey of LSUS students suggests students are pro-athletics, but anti-fees. The survey shows students believe more athletics at LSUS would: increase the university's enrollment, boost school spirit, shed the commuter college image, and increase their own support for the teams, but not at the price of a fee increase.

The survey consisted of twelve questions, with 426 students taking part.

"It was not random," said Link.

Instead, Justin Sasser, science

major and captain of his statistical group, decided to find out what students on campus thought about the athletic fee increase.

Sasser and his group were able to break down the students' "will" with the students' "want."

The statistical group relied on sympathetic faculty members, who allowed their class to participate in the survey, while giving up a part of their lecture time.

The survey was able to show the ratio of male and female patterns of voting.

Students not currently participating in intermural sports: Male: 78 percent, Female: 94 percent; students against an increase in the athletic fee: Male: 53 percent, Female: 63 percent; students who believe a student enrollment increase, due to an increase in the athletic fee: Male: 30 percent,

Female: 23 percent.

Students, as a whole, said they are for the aspects of athletics like: shedding the commuter college image: 58 percent; boosting school spirit: 67 percent; students who would support a sports team they enjoy to watch or participate in: 78 percent; students who would try out for a sports team they like to watch or participate in: 44 percent.

Students also voiced their opinion as to what sport should be considered after an athletic fee increase.

Men's football was the first choice, followed closely by men's basketball.

Women's softball was the first choice if a female sports team was voted on, followed by women's soccer.

Approximately 82 percent of the students surveyed who were

freshmen at LSUS, stated they truly believe an athletics fee increase would boost school spirit and shed the commuter college image.

Only 60 percent of the seniors at LSUS believe the same as the freshman class.

Paula Atkins, assistant director of counseling services, said student support for athletics shouldn't be based on the all-or-nothing concept.

Atkins said she can sympathize with many of the students who suggest they don't have the time.

"The average student is 26 years-old, and has a child," said Atkins.

"We have a large number of students who are non-traditional students."

According to Atkins, some of the reasons students don't have

# Profile: Scott Perrin has anchored the Pilots

by Ryan Sanford



Muscle bound and soft spoken, LSUS first baseman Scott Perrin said, "I like to wear my heart on my sleeve."

He knows he will only be able to wear it on an LSUS Pilot uniform sleeve for a handful of remaining games.

Perrin has been the steady force in the Pilot lineup all season, piling up numbers that would take the math department weeks to process.

But when you talk to the imposing Canadian, you get the feeling he plays the game for more than just filling up stat sheets.

And filled up the stat sheets, he has.

Perrin's stats are as big as his biceps, with a batting average of .395, 11 homeruns, and 55 rbi, he strikes fear into the hearts of opposing pitchers. More importantly, perhaps, is the impact he has on the guys who hit before him and behind him.

Opponents often pick out Perrin as the "one guy" that they can't let beat them. This means that Daniel Hermes sees more fastballs to hit in the two hole and Chad Spears, Cayce Burkett, and Nathan Teater are presented with more rbi opportunities in the middle of the lineup.

Teater said, "It's been great playing with Scott. He's an outstanding clutch hitter, he's a great friend and teammate and he's done a good job helping out our younger players with pitch selection."

When one hears the many accolades bestowed upon Perrin, it is easy to think that it has been an easy road for him. To the contrary.

After putting up phenomenal num-



Perrin

bers in 98', he was forced to sit out all of the 99' season because of complications with the INS. Combined with the loss of his mother, the past few years have been rough on Perrin. However, during the offseason he was able to focus and rediscover his love for the game.

He humbly gives credit to first year Head Coach Rocke Musgraves for providing a stable environment for he and his teammates to play in. "Rocke has been awesome from day one. He has the most enthusiasm and love for the game of any coach I've ever played for and that kind of attitude just spills over to the guys."

Musgraves knows that much of his team's success this year has been due to his 24-year old power hitter. "We

build innings around Scott. If I know he is coming up, it definitely effects how we approach things. We know the other team is a little nervous with him in there, and our guys really count on him to come through."

Perrin believes that a big part of his success this year has been team unity. "This team is so tight-knit. We've been through a lot this year, but we have stayed together and stayed positive." He added, "there has been no internal competition, and I just love playing with these guys."

Battling a groin injury and hernia for the past couple of weeks has made it tougher on Perrin, relegating him to DH duty only, but it would take nothing short of a straight jacket and shackles to keep him out of the lineup for his last few games.

"This is the most emotionally uplifting time that I've had in a really long time. I'm going to go out there, play hard, and have fun until it's over."

## Josh Constant named "Pitcher of the week"

by Ryan Sanford

The Red River Athletic Conference named LSUS Senior Josh Constant Pitcher of the Week for the week of April 17-23.

Constant helped the Pilots win two games last weekend against #10 ranked Houston Baptist, starting game one in a 5-3 LSUS win and getting his first save of the season in game three.

In eight total innings against the Huskies, Constant allowed only eight hits and three runs while striking out five and walking four.

Constant has been the workhorse of the Pilot pitching staff all season, logging 77.1 innings.



Constant

continued from page 10

According to Atkins, some of the reasons students don't have time for activities are commitments to work and family, while some students overload themselves with class work they can't handle.

- Other statistical surveys that have been conducted by LSUS students are: public support for moving City Hall downtown, public support of Wal-Mart in the community, the Sheriff's election race, mandatory school uniforms.

"Students are the ones who did all the work," said Link.

"It was their idea, and they did a good job."

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